

SENATE BILL 1616

By Gresham

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to middle college.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-903, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

Beginning at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year, THEC shall study and include in its report required under subsection (b) an analysis of the Tennessee middle college scholarship program under § 49-4-909 and its success in promoting early completion of an associate degree while completing high school. Specifically, THEC shall report the number of students in each class who completed both a high school diploma and an associate degree within two (2) years of entering the middle college program, the number of students each year who began the program but did not complete the program, the reasons for failure to complete the program, if the reasons can be determined, and which eligible postsecondary two-year institutions' middle college students were most successful in earning both a high school diploma and an associate degree. Beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, THEC shall also track middle college students who receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship after completing the middle college program to determine whether middle college students are more successful in retaining their Tennessee HOPE scholarships and in receiving baccalaureate degrees than Tennessee HOPE scholarship students who were not in the middle college program.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.